

## THIRD EDITION

THREE O'CLOCK P. M.

## BONTHORNE TRANSFORMED

## Oscar Wilde Returns With Short Hair and Baggy Trousers.

## THE OBJECT OF HIS VISIT

Mr. John T. Raymond on the Apostle, Henry Irving and Lillian Russell.

## HIS EXPERIENCES IN LONDON

As the steamer Britannic, of the White Star Line, from Liverpool, touched her wharf this morning the tall, commanding form of Oscar Wilde, the apostle of æstheticism, emerged from the cabin and glided down the gang-plank. A number of his English friends were on hand to receive him, and the demonstrative greetings on their part were returned by the sunflower worshipper with an equal amount of enthusiasm. Among those who were on the pier to receive their friends or relations was a young society lady, who, as her eyes followed the apostle, expressed great disappointment at his personal appearance. "Just to think," she said, "he has cut off his lovely curls, and the symmetry of his Apollo-like limbs is concealed by a pair of baggy trousers."

## A COMPLETE TRANSFORMATION.

If, as Mr. Labouchere, of the London Truth, maintains, the only things that ever elevated Oscar Wilde above ordinary mortals were a three-cornered handkerchief, a sunflower and a pair of knee breeches, he has certainly mingled with the herd again, as these were missing this morning. His hair was closely cut in the ordinary style. His head was graced by a sweeping Alpine slouch hat that concealed his hair almost entirely and rested on his ears for a support. He wore a black broadcloth sack coat and vest and a pair of light colored cassimere trousers that were held down to his patent leather shoes by straps.

## HE TALKS ABOUT HIS PLAY.

To a TELEGRAM reporter Mr. Wilde said that his present trip to America had been taken solely for the purpose of superintending the rehearsal and presentation of his play "Vera," which will be put upon the boards for the first time at the Union Square Theatre Monday night week. "In regard to its merits," he continued, "it would be useless for me to express an opinion. You know the author looks at the children of his brain as the parent does upon his offspring—through the colored glasses of affection and love, and either may overlook imperfections or faults which the disinterested must discern at once. If my play possesses merit it will succeed exactly in proportion to its worth."

## AN INEXORABLE CRITIC.

"The public," continued Mr. Wilde, "while it is unreasonable in a great many respects and is often imposed upon in a great many ways, is an inexorable but just critic of the drama. The reputation, no matter how great, that a playwright may have obtained in other fields of art or literature does not assist him in the slightest in the theatre. His verses or the production of his brush may be eagerly sought for, whether good or bad, as long as he creates them, once his reputation is acquired; but his histrionic work will have to bear the unbiassed criticism of the nerds which must needs pronounce us doom, or sustain it. As an illustration of this, take, for instance, the presentation of Tennyson's "Promise of May." Now, while all his late lines have been flashed over the cables of the world and eagerly read throughout all nations where literature is loved, his "Promise of May" was put upon the stage, with the disastrous result with which all are familiar."

## MR. RAYMOND'S RETURN.

Mr. John T. Raymond, the well-known comedian, was also a passenger on the Britannic and was accompanied by his wife. He was in his usual lumpy frame of mind and expressed himself as highly pleased with his return trip. Mr. Raymond was loud in his praises of Henry Irving, the English actor, both as a gentleman and an artist. He predicted that his appearance would create a furor in this country and that he would be warmly welcomed by the lovers of the "heavy" drama. In regard to the peculiar mannerisms that characterize Mr. Irving, and about which so much has been written by American correspondents abroad, he observed, "After one becomes accustomed to them they are not disagreeable at all, but in fact quite the reverse. The first sensation experienced by me in witnessing one of his performances, was as if somebody were pouring a pitcher of cold water down my back. But this passed away and I recognized the peculiar accent and odd postures as belonging solely to the man, serving to individualize him, and bring him out in bold relief from his brother actors. I believe that in his strong personalities lies his great success. It is originality that has caused him to be so generally and widely criticized, and it is that same criticism that has served to give him his present prominence. He is noted in England for his extreme hospitality at all times to American actors, and I hope to see his kindness reciprocated by the profession on this side of the water."

## RAYMOND ON WILDE.

In speaking of Oscar Wilde Mr. Raymond said that he had been the life of the ship during her passage, and had entertained the ladies with the reading of some of his poems at entertainments given up on board. "Upon Mr. Wilde's last visit to this country he came as a 'poser,'" said Mr. Raymond. "It was a business enterprise, and the idea was an exceedingly brilliant one in my mind. He came, he saw, he conquered, and he left with a good bank account. He comes now as a dramatist and his worth in that field will soon be known."

## LILLIAN RUSSELL IN LONDON.

From Mr. Raymond the facts in regard to Miss Lillian Russell's appearance in London at the Gaiety Theatre in "Paul and Virginia" were ascertained. "When upon the opening night," he said, "Miss Russell first made her appearance upon the stage she was loudly hissed. This demonstration, however, was quickly put down, and, before the curtain fell at the close, the very members of the audience who were loudest in their hisses were the most enthusiastic in their applause. She is playing in large business now, and Mr. Solomon is leading the orchestra."

Mr. Raymond will present his new play, "The Rocket," in Chicago, at the opening of the season there.

The following short sketches of the two members of the British peerage may be found of interest:—

## HON. ST. JOHN BRODERICK.

The Hon. William St. John Fremantle Broderick, of Peper-Harow, Godalming, Surrey, was elected as a conservative to the Parliament in 1880 in the place of Mr. Lee Steere. He is the eldest son of William, eighth Viscount Milteton (who was formerly M. P. for this constituency, by his marriage with the Hon. Augusta Mary Fremantle, third daughter of Lord Cottesloe. His grandfather, the late Viscount, was Dean of Exeter. He was born in the year 1834 and was educated at Eton and at Balliol College, Oxford, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1873. He was appointed to a lieutenantancy in the Second Royal Surrey militia in 1876, but retired about four years ago.

## SIR SAVILE CROSSLEY.

Sir Savile-Brinton Crossley, Bart., is the Justice of Peace for Suffolk. He was born June 14, 1827, and succeeded his father as second baronet on January 3, 1872. He was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, graduating from there in 1851. He holds a lieutenantancy in the Norfolk artillery militia.

## GENERAL ALBERT L. LEE.

General Lee was born in this State in 1824 and graduated with honor from Union College, Schenectady. He emigrated to Kansas in 1857 and there took up the practice of law, and eventually arose to be a Judge of the Supreme Court of Kansas. When the war of the rebellion broke out he joined the Seventh Kansas cavalry, with the grade of major. He distinguished himself in the Mississippi Valley under Generals Rosecrans and Grant. He won his promotion through all the grades to the rank of brigadier general, and in command of the cavalry of the Gulf Department achieved laurels on many a bloody battle field.